

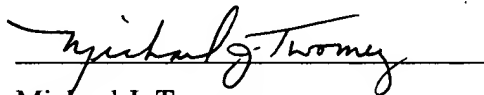
vectors of the invention may be used to introduce a nucleic acid encoding a desired molecule into cardiomyocytes.

The previously pending claims had been rejected only under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as non-enabled for methods of gene therapy and treatment. Without conceding that the rejections were proper, Applicants have canceled the previously pending claims and have submitted new claims directed to methods of introducing a nucleic acid encoding a desired molecule into cardiomyocytes. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are fully enabled.

Applicants enclose a Petition for a one-month Extension of Time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, up to and including June 13, 2001, to respond to the Office Action mailed on February 13, 2001. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee for the Petition to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Applicants request that the application and claims, as amended, be reconsidered. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite the favorable prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 617-526-6190 to schedule an interview.

Respectfully submitted,



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